

Matthew 13:44-46
The problem of cost

**If Jesus suffered for me
why should it cost so
much to know him?**

**Could Christian claims of
abundant life be false?**

Matthew 13:44-46

“The Kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid; and from joy over it he goes and sells all that he has, and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking fine pearls, and upon finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had, and bought it.”

Two parables with similarity

- ✓ **Something of value is found.**
- ✓ **The find brings joy.**
- ✓ **Great sacrifice is made to acquire what was found.**

Two Applications

1.	2.
God's view of us	Our view of Christ

**There are some things worthy
of great sacrifice.**

John 3:16

“For God so loved the world, that He give His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.”

Luke 14:33

“So therefore, no one of you can be My disciple who does not give up all his own possessions.”

I asked God to take away my **pride** and God said, "No." He said it was not for Him to take away, but for me to give up.

I asked God to make my **handicapped** child whole and God said, "No" He said, His spirit is whole, his body is only temporary.

I asked God to grant me **patience** and God said, "No." He said that patience is a by-product of tribulation. It isn't granted, it's earned.

I asked God to give me **happiness** and God said, "No." He said that He gives blessings, happiness is up to me.

I asked God to spare me **pain** and God said, "No." He said, Suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and brings you closer to me.

I asked God to make my spirit **grow** and God said, "No." He said that I must grow on my own, but He will prune me to make me fruitful.

I asked God **if He loved me** and God said, "Yes." He gave His only Son who died for me, and I will be in heaven someday because I believe.

I asked God to **help me love others** as much as He loves me and God said, "Ah, finally you have the idea."

The Point

It is hard to pay the price of following Jesus until you see the great vale in a reconciled relationship with a loving God.